

Message Text

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64

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:IMSILINS/NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EUR:AAHARTMAN

NEA:ALATHERTON

PM:RAERICSON

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 295288

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN INTEREST IN JORDANIAN TANK

REF: (A) AMMAN 7063, (B) AMMAN 7104, (C) BUCHAREST 7059

1. YOU SHOULD TELL THE KING AT YOUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY THAT WE APPRECIATE HIS PASSING ON TO US ROMANIAN INTEREST IN U.S. TANKS. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE GOOD IDEA FOR JORDAN TO LEND U.S. TANKS TO ROMANIA OR ALLOW ROMANIANS TO INSPECT U.S. TANKS IN JORDAN. AS KING IS AWARE, SUCH ACTION WOULD REQUIRE U.S. APPROVAL ACCORDING TO TERMS UNDER WHICH TANKS WERE SUPPLIED, AND WE ARE NOT RPT NOT IN POSITION TO GRANT IT. IT IS TRUE THAT ROMANIA DOES OCCUPY A RATHER SPECIAL POSITION IN WARSAW PACT, AND U.S. HAS TRIED TO BE AS SUPPORTIVE AS POSSIBLE OF ROMANIA'S RELATIVELY INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY LINE. FACT REMAINS, HOWEVER, THAT ROMANIA

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IS FULL-FLEDGED PACT MEMBER, AND UNTIL THIS SITUATION

CHANGES, OUR POLICIES AND REGULATIONS DO NOT ALLOW US TO
LEND DIRECT OR INDIRECT SUPPORT TO ROMANIAN EFFORTS TO
AUGMENT THEIR MILITARY CAPABILITY.

2. IF KING ASKS WHAT OUR REACTION WOULD BE IF ROMANIANS
WERE TO APPROACH US ON THIS TOPIC DIRECTLY, YOU MAY SAY
THAT THEY ARE CERTAINLY FREE TO DO SO BUT WITHOUT OFFERING
ENCOURAGEMENT AS TO LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR SUCCESS. KISSINGER

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